

APHELENCHUS STEUERI STEFAŃSKI, 1916 (NEMATODA):
PROPOSED SUPPRESSION UNDER THE PLENARY POWERS.
Z.N.(S.) 1698

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The purpose of the present application is to stabilize the name of a well-known economic pest by asking that the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature use its plenary powers to suppress the name *Aphelenchus steueri* Stefański, 1916.

1. *Aphelenchus steueri* Stefański, 1916 (*Zool. Anz.*, Leipzig, **46** : 383) was proposed as a synonym of *Tylenchorhynchus robustus* var. *brevicaudatus* (de Man, 1876) Micoletzky, 1922 (*Arch. Naturg.*, Berlin, **87A** : 650). Goffart in 1930 (*Monographien zum Pflanzenschutz*, hrsg. von H. Morstatt, Berlin, 105 pp.) listed this species as a synonym of *Tylenchus robustus* de Man, 1876 (*Tijdschr. Nederl. Dierk. Ver.* **2** : 78–196) and Loof & Oostenbrink in 1958 (*Nematologica* **3** : 34–43) placed *A. steueri* in *species inquirendae*.

2. Type specimens of *A. steueri* have not been found (personal visit to University of Innsbruck) and are presumed to be unavailable. Specimens were collected by the author at the type locality of *A. steueri* and identified as *Helicotylenchus steueri* (Stefański, 1916) Sher, 1961 (*Nematologica* **6** : 155–169). Subsequent study of these specimens revealed that two genera (*Rotylenchus* Filipjev, 1936 and *Helicotylenchus* Steiner, 1945) were present representing five described species. Although Stefański's original description and illustration are considered inadequate for a proper identification, the measurements and mention of "chitinous hooks" at the vulva (=epitygma) most closely fit the genus *Rotylenchus*. Of the three species of *Rotylenchus*, found at the type locality Stefański's description, illustrations, and measurements most closely fit *Rotylenchus buxophilus* Golden, 1956 (*Maryland Ag. Exp. Sta. Bull.* **A-85**, 28 pp., 1956). This species is considered adequately described, illustrated and documented with a holotype and numerous well preserved paratypes (*Nematologica* **10** : in press). *R. buxophilus* is an economic root parasite and this name is in wide use (Christie, 1959, *Plant Nematodes*, Univ. of Florida; Thorne, 1961, *Principles of Nematology*, N.Y., McGraw-Hill).

3. The International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature is therefore asked:

- (1) to use its plenary powers to suppress the name *steueri* Stefański, 1916, as published in the binomen *Aphelenchus steueri*, for the purposes of the Law of Priority but not for those of the Law of Homonymy;
- (2) to place the specific name *buxophilus* Golden, 1956, as published in the binomen *Rotylenchus buxophilus*, on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology;
- (3) to place the specific name suppressed under the plenary powers in (1) above on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Specific Names in Zoology.